

REMARKS

This application was originally filed on 21 December 2001 with thirty-one claims, four of which were written in independent form. Claims 19-31 have been allowed.

Claims 15, 17, and 18 have been amended to broaden the claim and to correspond with the terminology used in the independent claim.

Claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 (b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,444,566 to Gale et al. ("Gale '566"). The applicant respectfully disagrees.

Claim 1 has been amended to recite, "at least one bias electrode associated with each said at least one member operable to apply a reset pulse when said member is connected to said ground signal by said switch." Gale '566 teaches a mirror bias circuit for providing the mirror drive, hold, and reset voltages." (Column 8, lines 25-27.) Gale teaches a reset signal applied to the mirror, and therefore cannot be held to show, teach, or suggest both "connecting said member to a ground signal" and "at least one bias electrode associated with each said at least one member operable to apply a reset pulse when said member is connected to said ground signal by said switch" as recited by Claim 1.

Claim 14 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 (b) as being anticipated by Gale '566. The applicant respectfully disagrees.

Claim 14 has been amended to recite, "a means associated with each said at least one deflectable member for selectively connecting said deflectable member to a ground potential during a period in which said bias electrode provide a reset signal." Gale '566 teaches a mirror bias circuit for providing the mirror drive, hold, and reset voltages." (Column 8, lines 25-27.) Gale teaches a reset signal applied to the mirror, and therefore cannot be held to show, teach, or suggest both "at least two bias electrodes supported by said substrate, one on each side of an axis of said torsion hinge" and "a means associated with each said at least one deflectable member for selectively connecting said deflectable member to a ground potential during a period in which said bias electrodes provide a reset signal" as recited by Claim 14.

Claims 2, 5, 6, 8, 9, 15, and 16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 (b) as being anticipated by Gale '566. Claims 3, 4, 10, 12, 13, and 17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Gale '566 in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,285,407 to Gale et al. ("Gale

'407"). The applicant respectfully disagrees.

Claims 2-6, 8-10, and 12-17 depend from Claims 1 and 14 and should be deemed allowable for that reason and on their own merits. For the reasons argued above with respect to Claims 1 and 14, the prior art of record does not show, teach, or suggest the limitations of Claims 1 and 14, much less the limitations of Claims 1 and 14 in combination with the additional limitations of the dependent claims.

In view of the amendments and the remarks presented herewith, it is believed that the claims currently in the application accord with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112 and are allowable over the prior art of record. Therefore, it is urged that the present claims are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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